

## **S. 2425 B International Cooperative Antiterrorism Act**

Introduced by Sen. Bayh and Sen. Brownback

Dear Colleague:

At this moment, brave men and women from across America are putting their lives on the line to defend our freedoms and eradicate terrorism around the world. If America is to be successful in the war on terror, we will need the partnership and cooperation of foreign governments.

We have a bipartisan plan to bolster U.S. military and homeland security efforts by requiring that all nations receiving U.S. foreign aid and assistance cooperate fully in the war on terrorism. Please join us as a sponsor of the International Cooperative Anti-Terrorism Act.

The premise of the International Cooperative Anti-Terrorism Act is straight-forward: Countries that receive U.S. aid or weapons assistance will be required to fully cooperate with the U.S. in fighting the war on terrorism. There are four areas where international cooperation is essential: 1) cutting off terrorist financing, 2) sharing information and intelligence, 3) acting against terrorist cells or groups, and 4) ceasing support for terrorism and anti-American rhetoric in state-owned media and state-sponsored gatherings.

The bill requires the Secretary of State to provide an annual list to Congress of states and entities not in compliance with the terms of this Act. Those on the list will be ineligible for U.S. economic assistance and weaponry. However, to provide appropriate flexibility, the bill includes a Presidential waiver option but requires the Chief Executive to justify any waivers in writing. The bill also includes several exemptions, including for non-proliferation efforts and essential humanitarian assistance programs.

President Bush recently called for greater accountability in foreign aid, and we agree. Every nation that receives aid and assistance from the U.S. must be held accountable and must do their fair share. Rather than handing over American taxpayer money to governments that harbor terrorists and promote anti-American sentiments, we should take a common sense approach, using foreign aid and arms sales as a tool to help defend America and to further our security interests at home and overseas. Ultimately, this approach will give the President another tool to induce greater cooperation in the war on terrorism.

Please contact Todd Rosenblum in the Office of Senator Bayh (224-5623) or Sara Hessenflow in the Office of Senator Brownback (224-6521) if you would like more information about or to co-sponsor the International Cooperative Anti-Terrorism Act.

Sincerely,

Evan Bayh

Sam Brownback